

AVENGERS vs X-men®

MARVEL

VS

ROUND 7

FRACTION
COIPEL
MORALES
MARTIN

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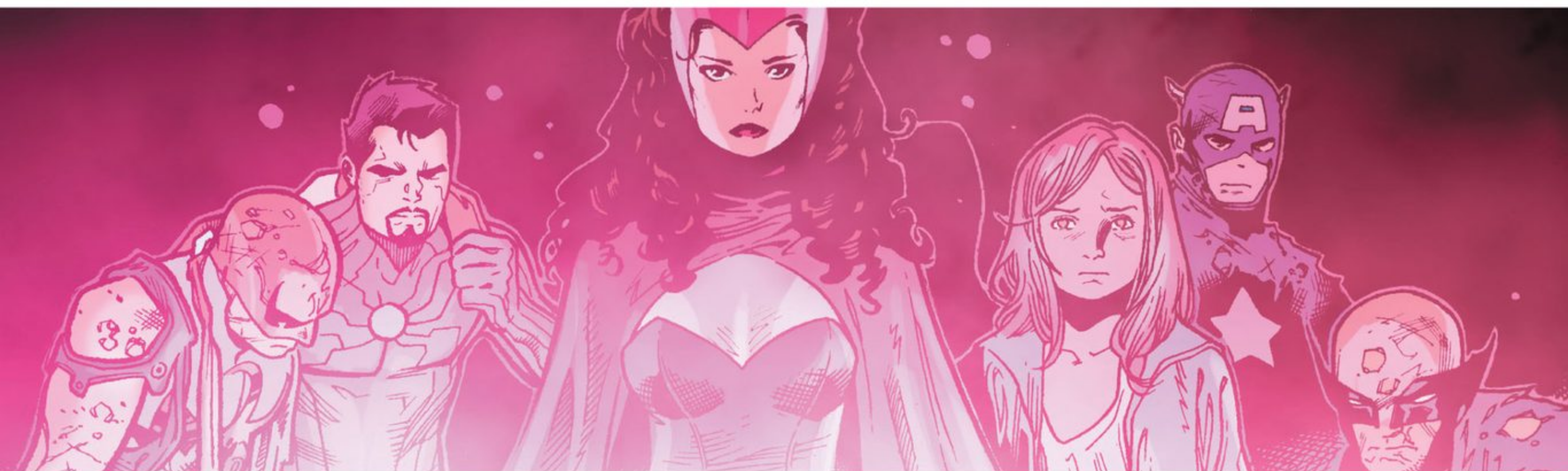


ROUND 7

THE PHOENIX FORCE HAS ARRIVED! TONY STARK BUILT A "PHOENIX KILLER" SUIT OF ARMOR TO STOP THE POTENTIALLY CATAclySMIC COSMIC ENTITY. INSTEAD, HE FRAGMENTED IT, CAUSING PORTIONS OF THE FORCE TO INHABIT IN X-MEN CYCLOPS, MAGIK, COLOSSUS, EMMA FROST AND NAMOR!

IN THE DAYS SINCE, THE PHOENIX FIVE HAVE BEEN ON A MISSION TO RESHAPE THE WORLD, DESTROYING ARMAMENTS, RAISING CROPS, PURIFYING WATER. HOWEVER, THERE ARE STILL THOSE WHO DON'T TRUST THE ALL-CONSUMING NATURE OF THE PHOENIX FORCE. THE AVENGERS LAUNCH A MISSION TO KIDNAP HOPE, BELIEVING THAT SHE STILL HOLDS THE SECRET TO THE PHOENIX FORCE'S POWER.

THE X-MEN DISRUPT THEIR PLANS, AND JUST AS IT LOOKS LIKE THE WAR WILL START ANEW, THE SCARLET WITCH APPEARS, SPEAKING OF VISIONS OF A TERRIBLE FUTURE AND THEN LEAVING WITH HOPE AND THE AVENGERS. BELIEVING THE EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES WILL NEVER ALLOW MUTANTS TO LIVE IN PEACE, CYCLOPS MAKES A VOW: "NO MORE AVENGERS."



**JASON AARON, BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS, ED BRUBAKER,
MATT FRACTION AND JONATHAN HICKMAN**

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MATT FRACTION

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AVENGERS



THE PHOENIX FIVE



X-MEN

AVENGERS
TOWER IS
SECURE. NO
ONE IN OR
OUT.

SO NOW
THEN...

WHERE IS
CAPTAIN
AMERICA? AND
MORE IMPORTANTLY...
WHERE IS THE
SCARLET
WITCH?

THIS WOMAN
WIPED OUT
MUTANTKIND WITH
A SENTENCE
FRAGMENT. SHE
SHOCKED ME ON
UTOPIA AND I
ACTUALLY
FELT IT.

I WANT HER OFF
THE BOARD. SHUT
DOWN, CONTAINED.
SHE IS OUR
OBJECTIVE.

CLOSING
DOWN AVENGERS
OPS, MAKING CAP
LOOK LIKE AN
OLD FOOL...

...THAT'S ALL WELL
AND GOOD. WANDA
MAXIMOFF IS THE ONLY
REAL THREAT THEY HAVE
IN THE FIELD RIGHT
NOW.

AVENGERS ACADEMY
IS SEALED OFF. THEIR
MILITARIZED CHILDREN
WILL HAVE TO HOLD THEIR
YOUTH RALLIES
SOMEWHERE ELSE
NOW...

DON'T WORRY--
WE KEEP THE
PRESSURE ON THE
AVENGERS. WE'RE
REBRANDING THEM AS A
GLOBAL TERRORIST
NETWORK.

JUST REMEMBER--
HE'S NOT AFRAID TO
FIELD HER. AND THAT
MEANS WE ARE GOING
TO START GETTING
HURT.

THEIR
HOVEL IN
CENTRAL PARK
IS CLEAR...

SCOTT,
WE FOUND
THEM!





WE FOUND THEM ALL...!

CUT OFF THEIR EXIT.

AVENGERS-- SCRAMBLE!

--GAH--

LESE LE BON--

SHUT UP.

--GRRRAH--

THEY'RE MOVING PRETTY FAST, CAP.

THEN MOVE FASTER.

WANDA. LAY DOWN SOME COVER...



THIS ISN'T EASY
FOR ME, VISION.
I'D APPRECIATE YOU
PRETENDING TO HAVE
A HEART FOR--

WANDA,
SWEETHEART,
TONY HERE--

NEED YOU TO
STAY FOCUSED
OR THE DATA
SKEWS.

I'LL SEE
WHAT I CAN
DO.

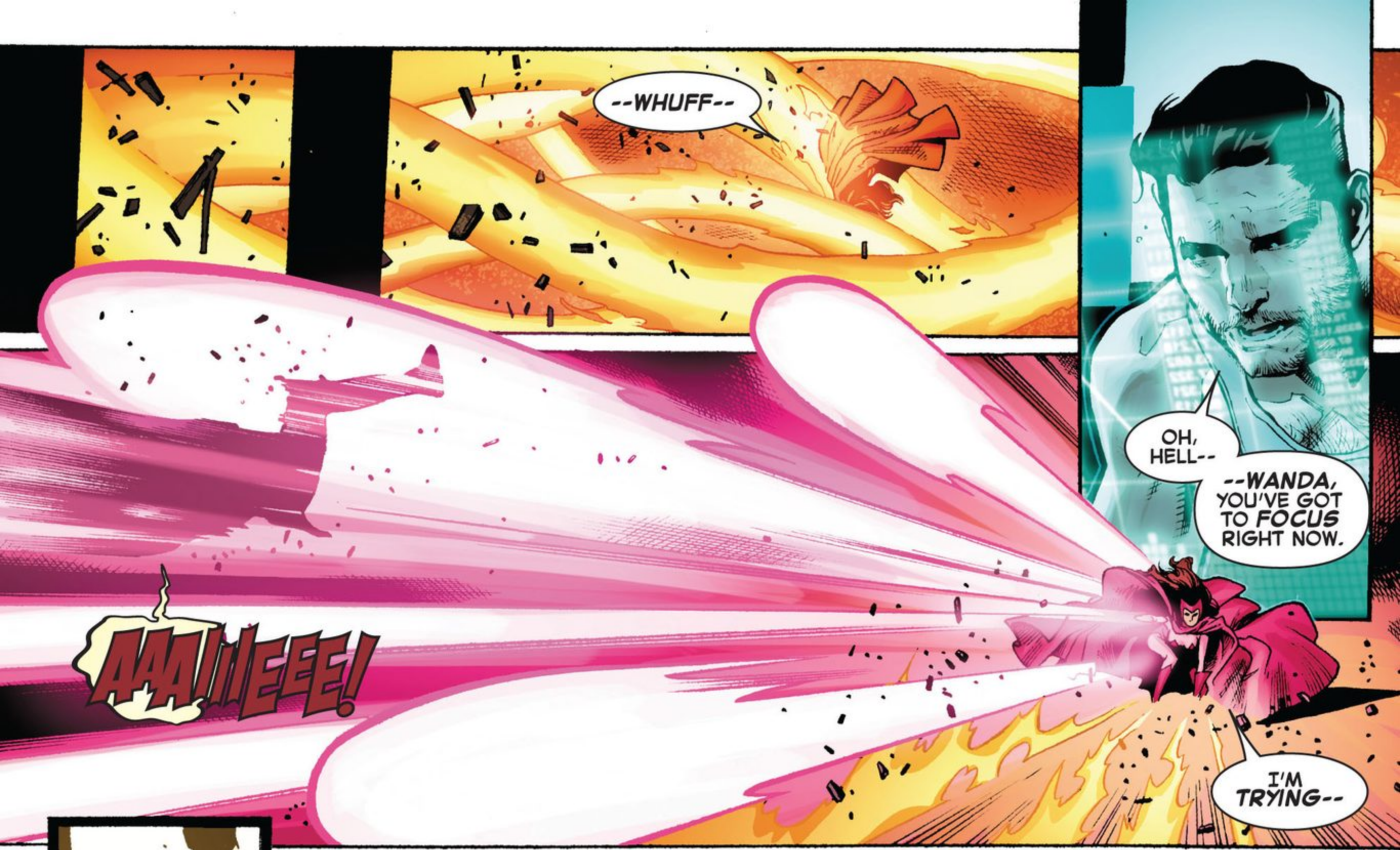
I CANNOT
SUGGEST ANY
MORE HIGHLY
HOW DISMAL A
NOTION I FIND
THAT.

CAN YOU
DO THAT FOR
ME? WE NEED
PURE--

I CAN
TRY.

NOW STOP
TALKING...





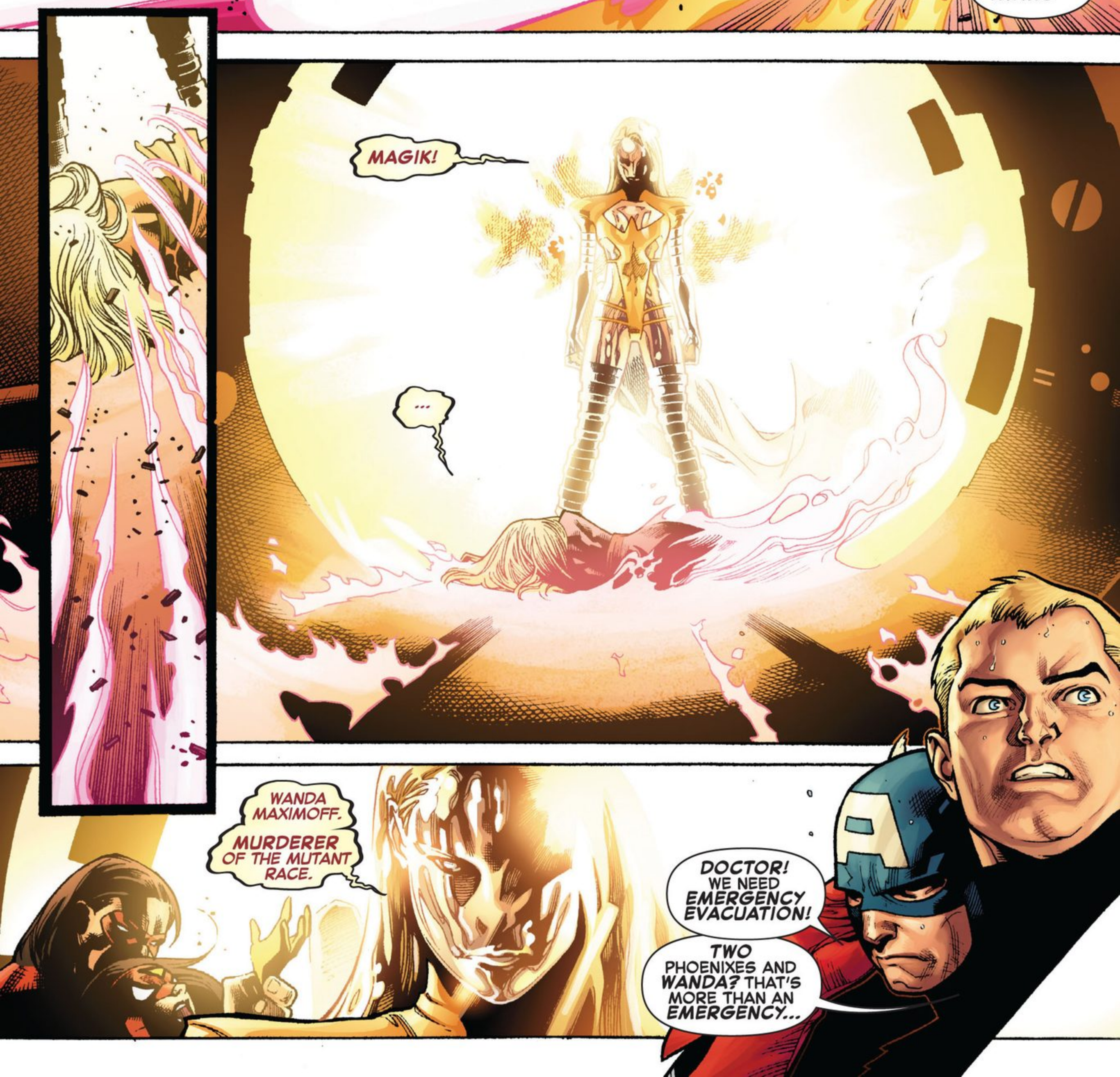
--WHUFF--

OH,
HELL--

--WANDA,
YOU'VE GOT
TO FOCUS
RIGHT NOW.

I'M
TRYING--

AAAIEEEEE!



MAGIK!

...

WANDA
MAXIMOFF.
MURDERER
OF THE MUTANT
RACE.

DOCTOR!
WE NEED
EMERGENCY
EVACUATION!

TWO
PHOENIXES AND
WANDA? THAT'S
MORE THAN AN
EMERGENCY...





WE'RE TRYING TO SAVE THE WORLD!

EEYAAARRGGH--!



CLINT--
CLINT--!



IT'S TOO LATE, WANDA...

...IT'S TOO LATE...

NO NO NO NO NO...



TOO SOON! YOU'RE BACK TOO SOON--

I NEEDED MORE DATA, MORE TELEMTRY FROM THE--

GO TO HELL!



MAN DOWN, STARK.

WE'VE GOT A MAN DOWN.



UTOPIA.

WE FINALLY
HAVE THE POWER
TO REMAKE THE
WORLD IN OUR
IMAGE.

WE HAVE TO
GET ALONG TO
DO IT...AND NOT
KILL PEOPLE THAT
DISAGREE WITH
US.

I DIDN'T KILL
HIM AND I WASN'T
TRYING TO KILL
HIM. I GOT MAD,
AND THE POWER--

LOOK, HAWKEYE'S
STILL ALIVE, AND
WE CAN HEAL HIM,
SO TELL ME WHY
MUST I BE
CHASTISED
SO?

I SAY YOU
SHOULD HAVE
KILLED THEM.
YOU SHOULD
HAVE KILLED
THEM ALL.

NAMOR, WE'RE
PUTTING PRESSURE
ON THE AVENGERS ON
A GLOBAL SCALE, SHUTTING
DOWN THEIR OPERATIONS
AND CAPTURING KEY
MEMBERS...HOW DOES
MURDER--

THIS IS A WAR,
SUMMERS! NOT
SOME KIND OF
GANG BRAWL!

YOU
DIDN'T SEE HER,
SCOTT. YOU DIDN'T
HEAR HER.

SHE ACTUALLY
HURT ME AND I
THINK SHE ENJOYED
IT. I DON'T BELIEVE
THAT FAIRY TALE
THEY'RE TRYING TO
SELL US--I LOOKED
AT WANDA MAXIMOFF
AND I SAW...

I SAW EVIL,
SCOTT. I SAW
EVIL THAT CAN
HURT US ALL.

I THINK THE
PHOENIX CAME TO
US SO WE COULD
PURGE THAT EVIL
FROM EARTH
FOREVER.

YOU'RE WRONG,
ILLYANA.

HAWKEYE WILL
BE ALLOWED TO
HEAL, THEN PUT
HIM IN THE X-BRIG
WITH THE REST OF
THE PRISONERS.

THIS
ISN'T A
WAR.

IT'S A RESCUE
MISSION. CONDUCT
YOURSELVES
ACCORDINGLY.

WAKANDA.

STARK,
T'CHALLA--
WHERE ARE
WE?

WE'RE LOSING
PEOPLE, LOSING
GROUND, AND
STARTING TO LOSE
FAITH--

WE NEED
SOME **WINS**
AND WE NEED
'EM NOW.

AND IF
A FROG HAD
WINGS, CAP--

SAVE THE **SMART**
MOUTH FOR SOME
OTHER END OF THE
WORLD, TONY.

ANSWERS.
SOLUTIONS.
NOW.

WE HAVE MORE **QUESTIONS** THAN
ANSWERS. STARK'S ANALYSIS OF WANDA
DURING YOUR LAST SCRIMMAGE PROVIDED
US **VOLUMES** OF ADDITIONAL
DATA BUT AT THIS POINT...

WE DON'T EVEN
SEE THE WHOLE
OF THE EQUATION,
CAP. THE **SCALE**
OF THE PHOENIX
FORCE AND THE
CATASTROPHIC
EFFECTS MY...
MEDDLING...HAD
ON IT...

...WE NEED
MORE DATA.
WE NEED MORE
TIME.

"STALL" WAS NOT
THE ANSWER I WAS
LOOKING FOR,
FELLAS.

FIND ME A
BETTER ONE.
FAST.



STARK...IF I'M
PARSING THESE
PLANS OF YOURS
CORRECTLY...

YOU'RE
TRANSFORMING
THIS ARMOR INTO
A COLOSSAL
SUICIDE
SUIT.

WELL.

ASSUMING WE CAN
EVEN *GET* THESE FIVE
PHOENIXED-OUT X-MEN
IN THE SAME PHYSICAL
SPACE AS THE SUIT?

THERE'S A 13%
CHANCE OF IT ACTUALLY
REDIRECTING THE ENERGY
WHERE IT CAME FROM
AND...

...YEAH, PRETTY
MUCH 100% CHANCE
OF IT KILLING THE SUIT'S
PILOT EITHER WAY.

LOOK, T'CHALLA,
THIS IS *MY* FAULT. I
WAS THE GUY THAT RAN
OFF HALF-COCKED AND
CREATED THIS
PROBLEM.

IF *FIXING* IT
MEANS A ONE-
WAY TICKET THEN
I'VE *EARNED*
IT--



SCIENCE IS FAILING US AND YOU'RE
CONCERNED WITH WRITING YOUR OWN
ENDING. THAT IS AS UNACCEPTABLE
AS YOUR PRECIOUS LITTLE 13%.

SCIENCE FAILS. *YOU*
HAVE FAILED. YOU DON'T
GET TO *KILL YOURSELF*
TO ESCAPE FINDING A
SOLUTION.

ANY SUGGESTIONS
YOU GOT, SUCKER
PUNCH, I'D LOVE
TO *HEAR* 'EM.

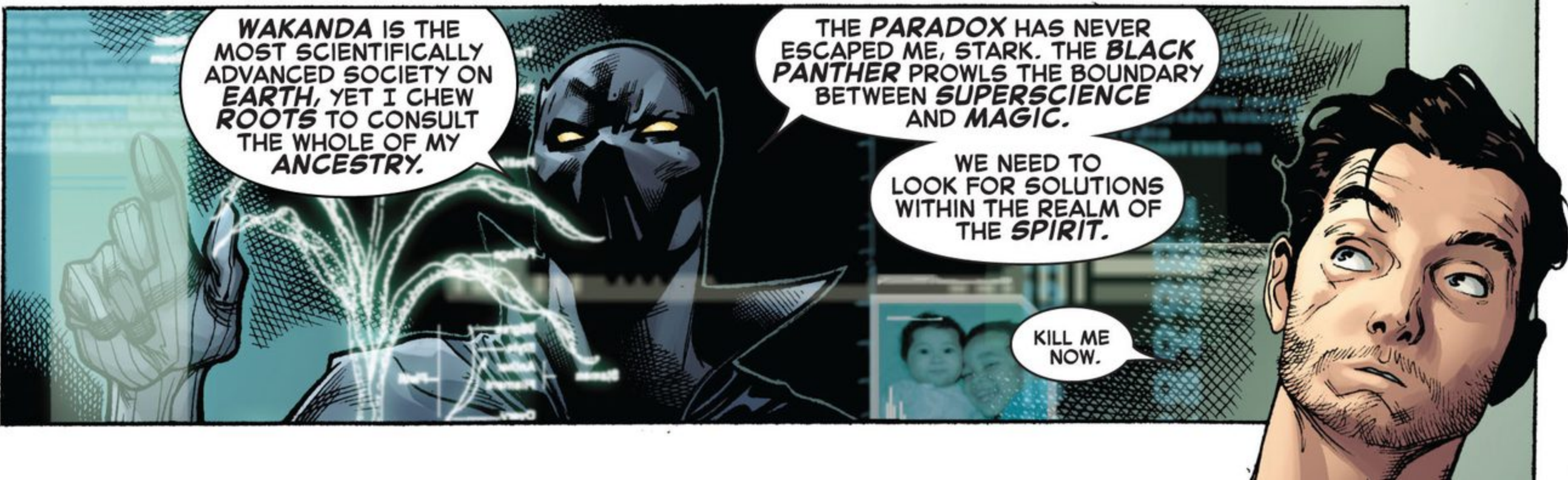


WAKANDA IS THE
MOST SCIENTIFICALLY
ADVANCED SOCIETY ON
EARTH, YET I CHEW
ROOTS TO CONSULT
THE WHOLE OF MY
ANCESTRY.

THE *PARADOX* HAS NEVER
ESCAPED ME, STARK. THE *BLACK
PANTHER* PROWLs THE BOUNDARY
BETWEEN *SUPERSCIENCE*
AND *MAGIC*.

WE NEED TO
LOOK FOR SOLUTIONS
WITHIN THE REALM OF
THE *SPIRIT*.

KILL ME
NOW.



FOLKS, THERE'S BAD NEWS AND WORSE. THE BAD IS THAT THE X-MEN HAVE STARTED TAKING PRISONERS. THE WORSE IS STARK AND T'CHALLA NEED MORE TIME.

SO WE'RE GOING BACK OUT INTO THE FIELD AND PLAYING ROPE-A-DOPE WITH THESE GUYS A WHILE LONGER.

OUR ACE IN THE HOLE IS HOPE SUMMERS WHO IS AS MUCH AN EXPERT ON THE PHOENIX FORCE...AND THE X-MEN...AS WE'RE GOING TO GET.

I TRAINED MY ENTIRE LIFE IN ANTICIPATION OF POSSESSING THE PHOENIX. AND WHEN THE TIME CAME, I FLINCHED.

WHAT I SEE WHEN I LOOK INTO THE EYES OF SCOTT SUMMERS AND THE REST SCARES ME--NOT BECAUSE THEY'RE, LIKE, BAD PEOPLE, BUT BECAUSE...

THEY SIMPLY CAN'T BE READY FOR WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THEM. SOME OF YOU MAY WISH TO FIGHT THE X-MEN, OR TO STOP THE PHOENIX...

...I WANT TO SAVE MY FRIENDS.

SO WHILE YOU GUYS TRY TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO DO THAT, WHEN YOU FIND THE X-MEN IN THE FIELD...

THE SCARLET WITCH IS THE ONLY THING THAT WILL SCARE THEM. IT'S THE ONLY THING THEY'LL RESPECT.

I KNOW YOU DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT, BUT IT'S TRUE--THEY HATE AND BLAME HER FOR SO MUCH...

BUT THEY'RE ALSO AFRAID OF HER.

TO THAT END... BEHOLD THE ENCHANTMENTS OF IKONN.

THE ILLUSIONS THEY CREATE WILL MAKE THE BEARER APPEAR TO BE THE SCARLET WITCH...





"IF THE X-MEN CONTINUE TO TAKE **PRISONERS** THESE CHARMS SHOULD ALLOW FOR SAFE **EGRESS** WHEN NEEDED..."



"WE NEED TO DEPLOY THE ENCHANTMENTS OF IKONN **SELECTIVELY**. USE ONLY IN EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES."



"BECAUSE ONCE THEY KNOW IT'S A RUSE WE'RE OUT OF TIME. IT MAY BUY US A FEW DAYS. IT MAY ONLY BUY US **HOURS**."



**AVENGERS
ASSEMBLE!**

C'MON...
COME ON...

BOSZHE
MOI, SHE'S
HERE--

--MAXIMOFF
IS IN NEW
YORK.

X-MEN!
FALL BACK!

THE UKRAINE.

HOW IS THAT
POSSIBLE?

SHE'S
HERE.



IT'S A TRICK.
A HOLOGRAM
OR--

--MAGIC OR
SOME TONY STARK
CRAP--

THE ARCTIC CIRCLE.

--SHE
CAN'T BE
EVERYWHERE
AT ONCE.



SO ENGAGE
AND CONTAIN
ALREADY.



THE PACIFIC
OCEAN.

THEN WHERE
IS THE REAL
SCARLET WITCH,
SUMMERS?

WE'VE STILL
NOT LAID
HANDS ON
HER.



AND
YOU NEVER
WILL.



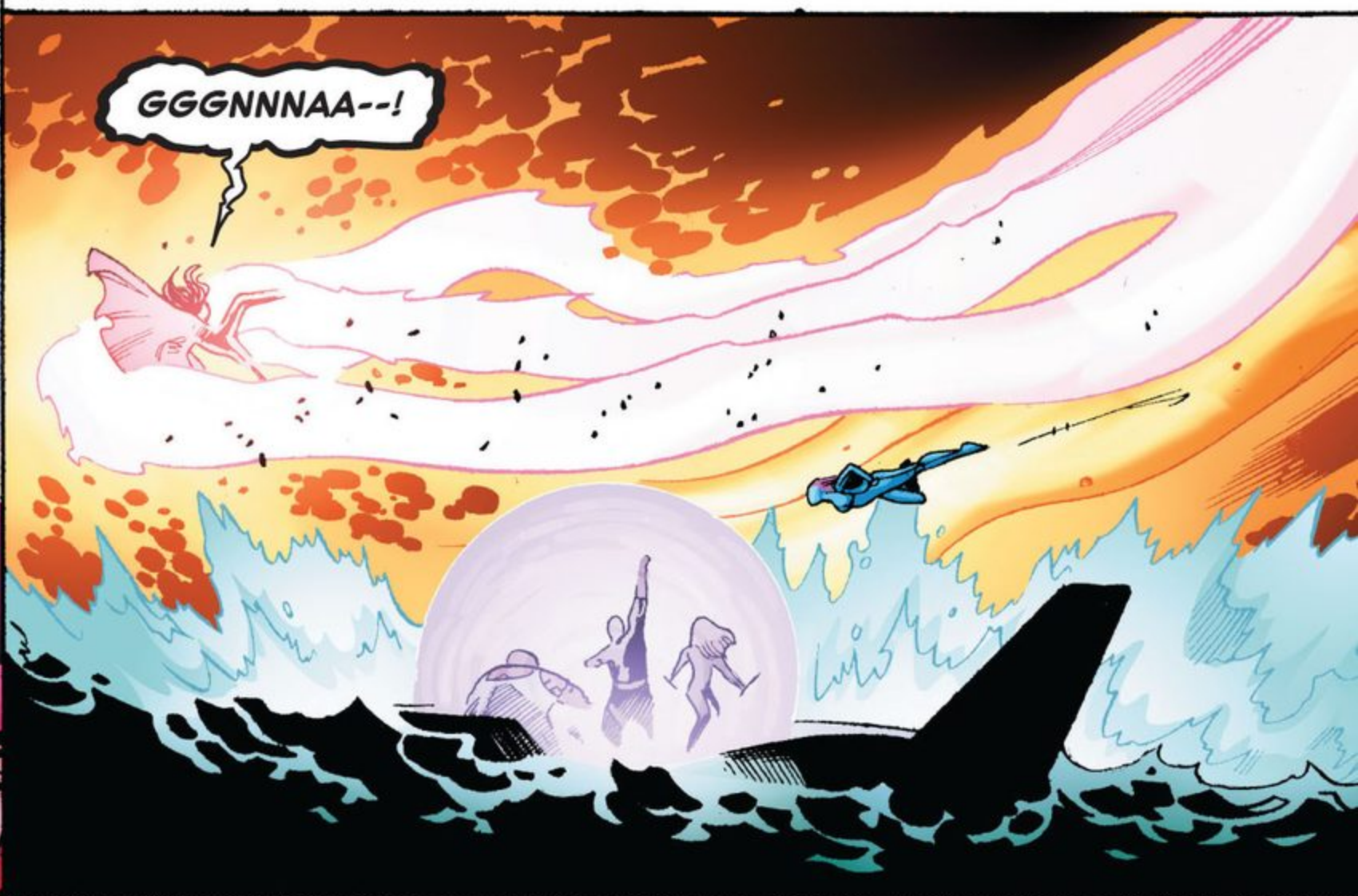
FORGIVE
ME.



TRANSONIC.

DOING MY BEST, SIR--

DOCTOR, EVACUATE NOW!



GGGNNNAA--!



WAKANDA.

HOSTS OF HOGGOTH--!

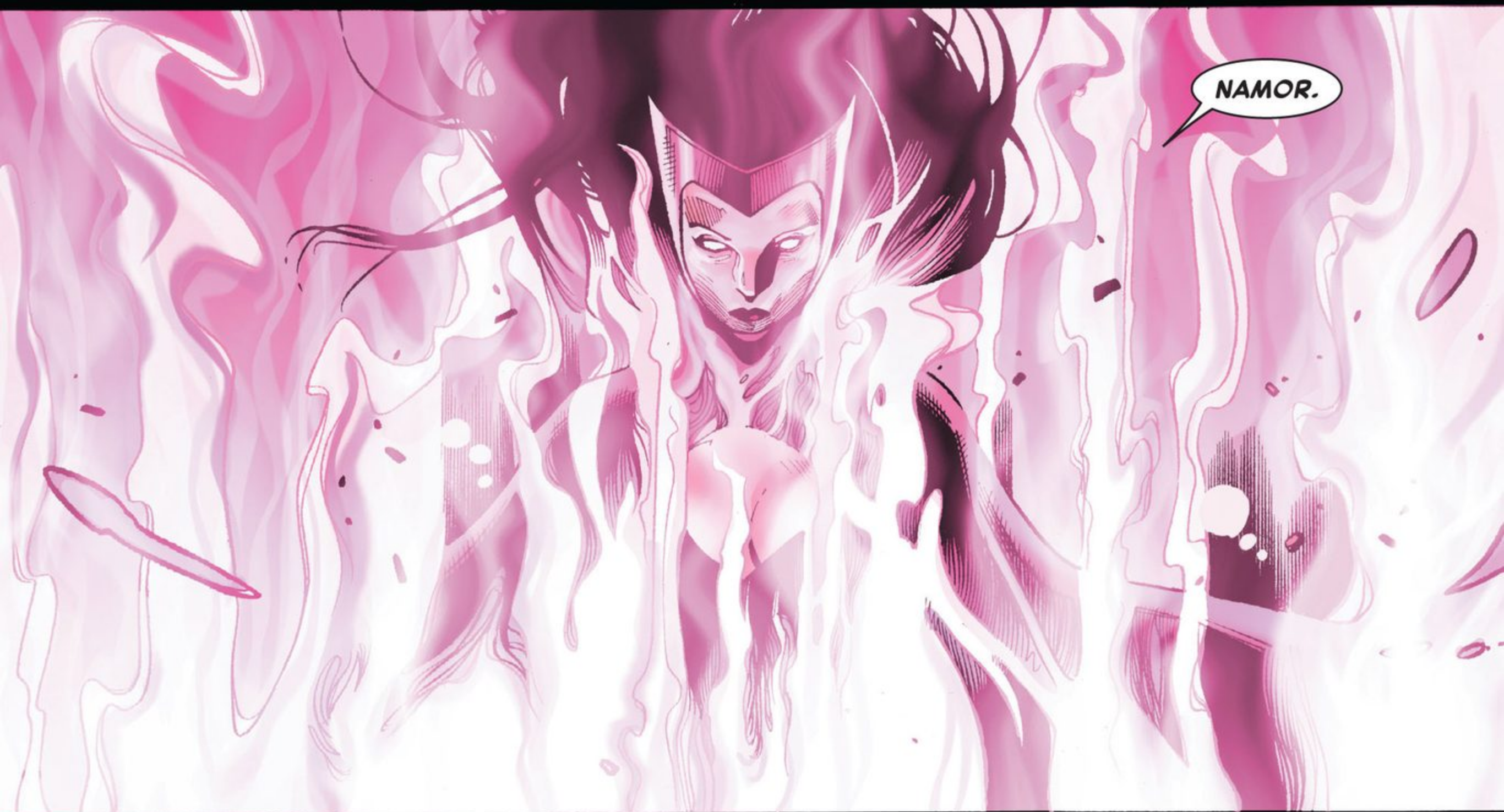


SEIZE THE X-MAN--

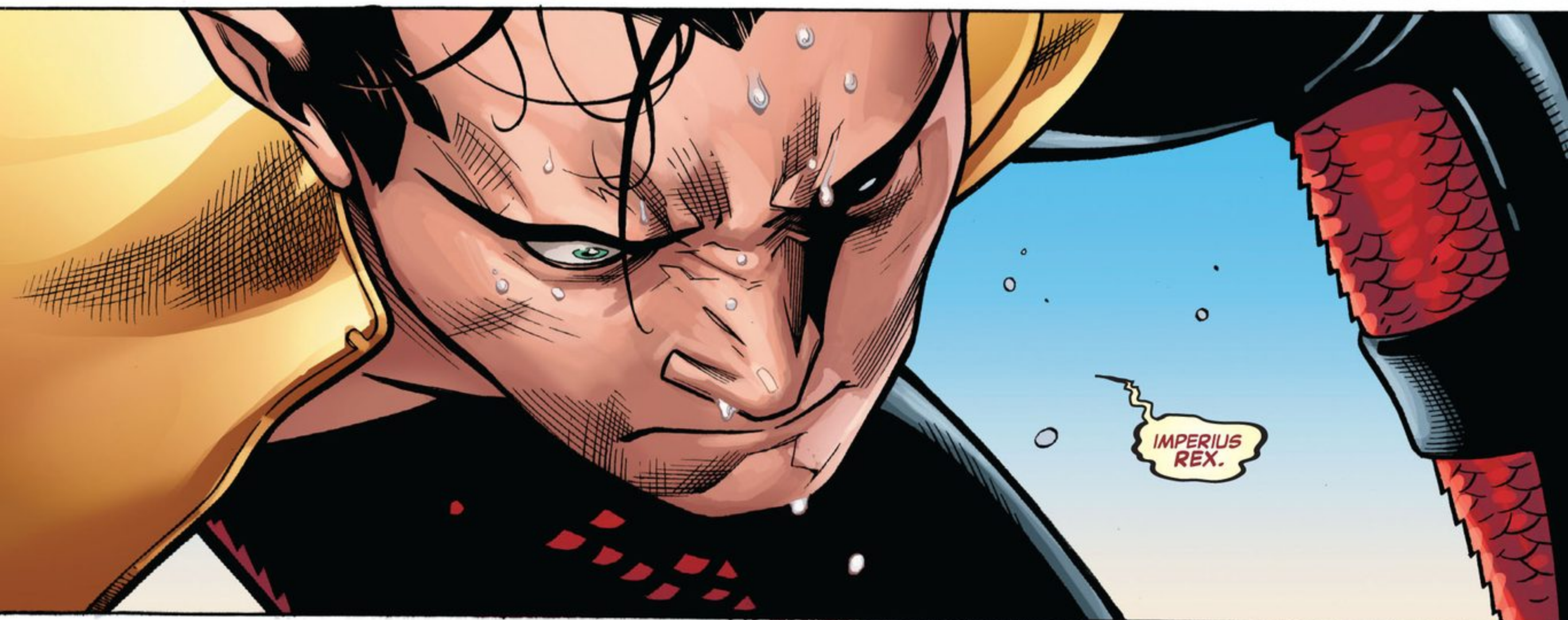


WITCH!

AAAAA



NAMOR.



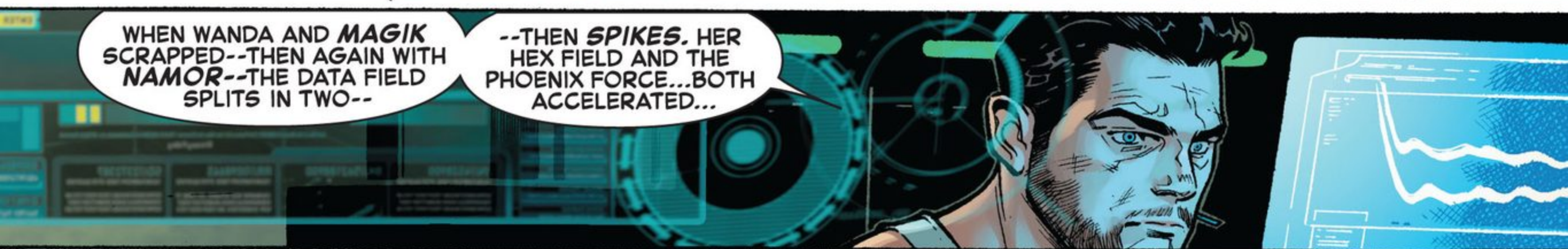




I
FOUND
IT.

WHEN WANDA AND **MAGIK**
SCRAPPED--THEN AGAIN WITH
NAMOR--THE DATA FIELD
SPLITS IN TWO--

--THEN **SPIKES**. HER
HEX FIELD AND THE
PHOENIX FORCE...BOTH
ACCELERATED...



THERE'S A
CONNECTION
BETWEEN
THEM. THEIR
ENERGIES--



TONY
STARK!



STARK, LEI KUNG
THE **THUNDERER**, OF
K'UN LUN, THE MYSTICAL
CITY OF KUNG FU
WHERE--

--KNOW WHAT?
I CAN EXPLAIN
LATER.

THEY KNOW
WHAT TO DO WITH
HOPE, TONY. OR
RATHER, **HOW** TO
READY HER.

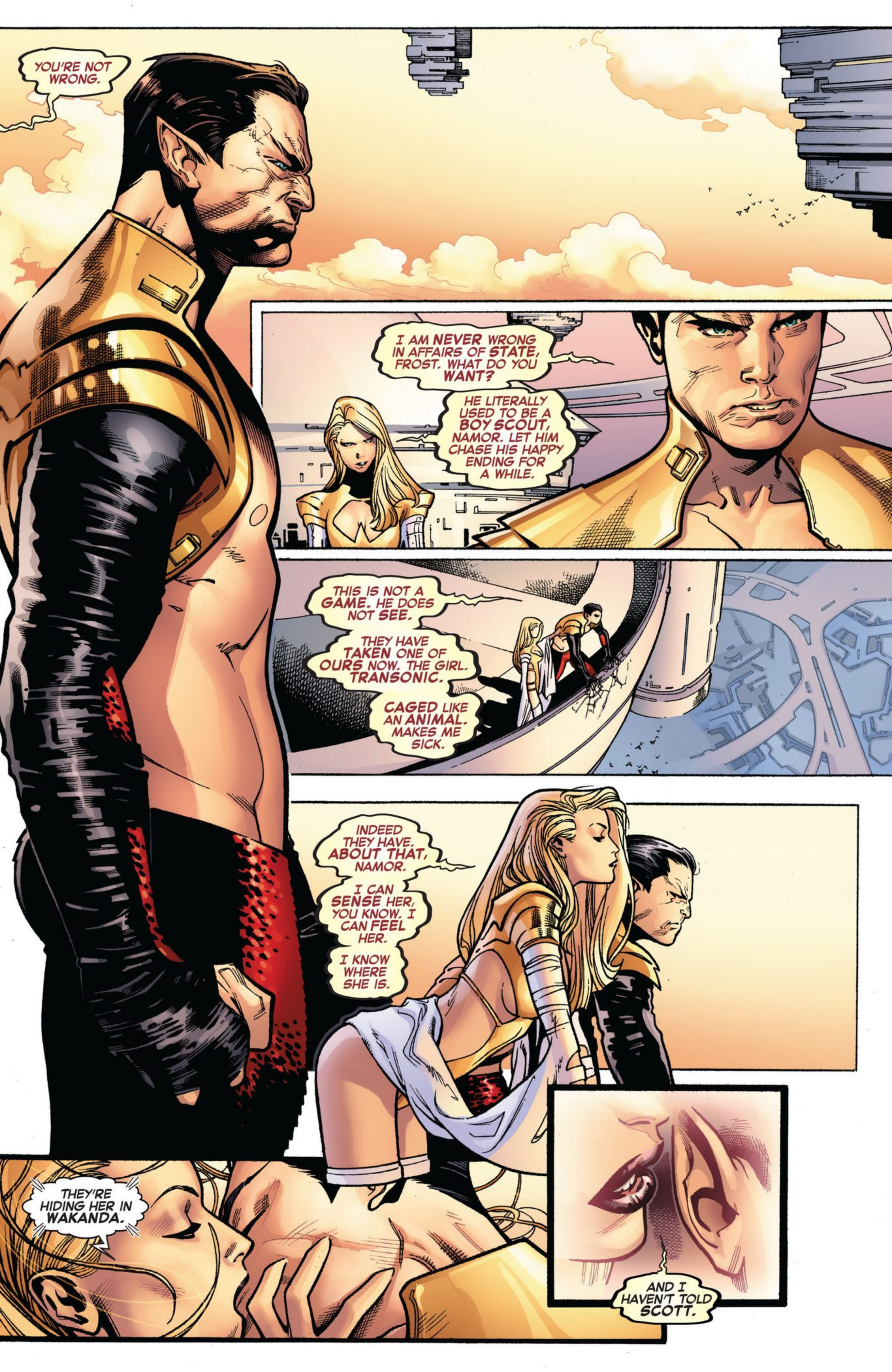
THE **BURNING
CYCLE** FALLS
ACROSS THE PLANE
OF **EARTH** AGAIN,
UNLIKE BEFORE.

THE FIRE OF THE
PHOENIX WILL
CONSUME YOU ALL...
AND THEN THE **CELESTIAL
CITIES OF HEAVEN**.
THE **VESSEL** MUST BE
PREPARED OR THE
INFINITE ARRAY
SHALL PERISH.

WE GOTTA TAKE
HOPE TO K'UN LUN.
THE **X-MEN** WILL
NEVER FIND HER
THERE AND **HE** CAN
TRAIN HER BEFORE
IT'S TOO LATE.

CAN
WE ALL
GO?





YOU'RE NOT
WRONG.

I AM NEVER WRONG
IN AFFAIRS OF STATE,
FROST. WHAT DO YOU
WANT?

HE LITERALLY
USED TO BE A
BOY SCOUT,
NAMOR. LET HIM
CHASE HIS HAPPY
ENDING FOR
A WHILE.

THIS IS NOT A
GAME. HE DOES
NOT SEE.

THEY HAVE
TAKEN ONE OF
OURS NOW. THE GIRL.
TRANSONIC.

CAGED LIKE
AN ANIMAL.
MAKES ME
SICK.

INDEED
THEY HAVE.
ABOUT THAT,
NAMOR.

I CAN
SENSE HER,
YOU KNOW. I
CAN FEEL
HER.

I KNOW
WHERE
SHE IS.

THEY'RE
HIDING HER IN
WAKANDA.

AND I
HAVEN'T TOLD
SCOTT.



T'CHALLA!
MY LORD!

WHAT
NEWS
DO YOU
BRING?

I'LL TAKE
THAT AS A
YES...

HOPE AND
WOLVERINE ARE
ALREADY THROUGH
AND ARE IN THE
CITY.

WE'LL GET THE
EQUIPMENT FOR
STARK THROUGH, THEN
FALL BACK TO K'UN LUN,
REGROUP, AND KEEP
FIGHTING.

THUNDERER,
YOU'RE CERTAIN
WE'LL BE ABLE TO
TRAVERSE THE WORLDS?
NOT KEEN ON MY PEOPLE
LEAVING EARTH AND
NOT COMING
BACK.

I HAVE BORED
A MOLTEN HOLE
THROUGH CELESTIAL
CLOCKWORK TO COME
HERE, CAPTAIN. IT
WILL NOT HEAL
QUICKLY.

T'CHALLA--
GREAT ONE--THE
WATER--

SLOW
DOWN, SON.
WHAT ARE--

THE LAKE--
TWISTED VISIONS
LAKE--IT RISES
UP AND--

--A WALL OF
WATER SIMPLY
ROSE UP--

NAMOR IS
HERE.



WAR!

TO BE CONTINUED
IN TWO WEEKS...!



COMING IN TWO WEEKS!

#8

X-USA

